



## The Beaujolais Nouveau for 2005 arrive with drama and style

AT ONE MINUTE PAST MIDNIGHT on the third Thursday of each November, from little villages and towns like Romanèche-Thorins, over a million cases of Beaujolais Nouveau begin their journey through a sleeping France to Paris for immediate shipment to all parts of the world. Banners proclaim the good news: *Le Beaujolais Nouveau est arrivé!* "The New Beaujolais has arrived!" One of the most frivolous and animated rituals in the wine world has begun. This traditional Thursday has become the celebration of their arrival in Aruba, in a most memorable way.

The partnership of Aruba Trading Company, Chez Mathilde Restaurant, and the Access Art Gallery has been making the annual uncorking of the Beaujolais Nouveau an exciting and unforgettable event for several years. For their seventeenth presentation guests were immersed in the French Revolution, ala Freddie Montoya, Aruba's showman *extraordinaire*, with the additional option of being posed and photographed with the revolutionaries as the guests were about to be beheaded on the guillotine. This memorable evening began at Access Art Gallery, where a champagne and cheese party started the festivities. At seven, the guests were treated to a presentation of the drama and spirit of *La Revolution* accompanied by appropriate modern music that set the mood. They were then lead through the streets of Orajestad by the angry revolutionaries, carry flaming torches and screaming slogans. This bit of inter-active theater culminated in front of Chez Mathilde restaurant, where Louis the XVI and Marie Antoinette were holding court, only to be seized and "beheaded" at the guillotine. At the same time, the Beaujolais Nouveau for 2005 was uncorked, and attendees were allowed to savor the wine along with the street show. For those that had inscribed for the dinner at Chez Mathilde afterwards, a fabulous five-course gourmet feast awaited them, accompanied by a carefully chosen selection of Beaujolais and Cote de Rhone that would perfectly complement each dish. Diners were surrounded in the atmosphere of being in Paris, with a singer warbling "La Vie en Rose" while a street painter created a work of art before their eyes. During the dinner, host and hostess Raoul and Landa Henriquez, owners of Chez Mathilde made the rounds, making sure their guests were enjoying the festivities.

It is any wonder that this festive evening is so anticipated by so many? Jorge Curiel of Aruba Trading Company proudly offered his selection of George Du Boeuf Beaujolais for the connoisseurs of food and wine, and Renwick Heronimo of Access Art Gallery made sure that they were entertained in style. Vive la Revolution! Vive le vin! Vive le Beaujolais !